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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

A replacement drawing sheet with FIGURE 3 is attached herewith.

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REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed May 29, 2007 (hereinafter "Office Action"). Claims 1-29 have been canceled without prejudice. New Claims 30-47 have been added and are pending in the application.

The Office Action objected to the drawings and requires corrected drawing sheets. The Office Action objected to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action rejected Claims 1-24 and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Office Action rejected Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,582,579, issued to Chism et al. (hereinafter "Chism et al."). The Office Action rejected Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17-20, 24, and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,084,459, issued to Coleman (hereinafter "Coleman"). The Office Action rejected Claims 1-5, 7, 17, 22, 24, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,981,294, issued to Edwards (hereinafter "Edwards"). The Office Action rejected Claims 1-5, 17, 24, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,984,195, issued to Phillips (hereinafter "Phillips"). The Office Action rejected Claims 8 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards. The Office Action rejected Claims 6 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Phillips in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,748,607, issued to Jarrett (hereinafter "Jarrett"). The Office Action rejected Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-22, and 24-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 1,104,357, issued to Hassel (hereinafter "Hassel") in view of Colman. The Office Action rejected Claims 8, 16, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hassel as modified by Colman and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,044,497, issued to Richardson (hereinafter "Richardson").

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Summary of the Present Invention

The present invention is generally related to appendage covers adapted to permit the covered appendage to selectively glide upon a surface. More specifically, the appendage cover includes a body portion for covering at least a portion of the appendage. The body portion includes a grip surface positioned to engage the appendage and hold the body portion stationary relative to the appendage. The body portion also includes a glide surface positioned to slide upon the surface during movement of the person. The glide surface has a predetermined coefficient of friction sufficient to enable the appendage to glide upon the surface when the appendage is resting upon the surface and not bearing the weight of the user. Accordingly, the appendage is weakened by a percentage that allows the user to glide upon the surface. The appendage becomes immobile when the appendage is bearing at least a portion of the weight of the user up to a non-perpendicular angle relative to a support surface.

Objection to the Specification

Claims 2, 3, 11, 18 and 27 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-24 and 26-29

As indicated above, Claims 1-24 and 26-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 9, 17 and 24 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-24 and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-5

As indicated above, Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chism et al. The Office Action asserts that the manner in which an apparatus is

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intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from the cited art. Although applicant respectfully disagrees, Claims 1-5 have been canceled to further the prosecution of the present application, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 30-47 have been added to further point of the novelty of applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully submits that Chism et al. does not teach the method recited in Claims 30-47.

Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17-20, 24, and 26-29

As indicated above, Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17-20, 24, and 26-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Coleman. The Office Action similarly asserts that the manner in which an apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from the cited art. Although applicant respectfully disagrees, Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17-20, 24, and 26-29 have been canceled to further the prosecution of the present application. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17-20, 24, and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 30-47 have been added to further point of the novelty of applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully submits that Coleman does not teach the method recited in Claims 30-47.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-5, 7, 17, 22, 24, and 28

As indicated above, Claims 1-5, 7, 17, 22, 24, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Edwards. The Office Action similarly asserts that the manner in which an apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from the cited art. Although applicant respectfully disagrees, Claims 1-5, 7, 17, 22, 24, and 28 have been canceled to further the prosecution of the present application, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-5, 7, 17, 22, 24, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

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Claims 30-47 have been added to further point of the novelty of applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully submits that Edwards also does not teach the method recited in Claims 30-47.

Claims 1-5, 17, 24, and 28

As indicated above, Claims 1-5, 17, 24, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Phillips. The Office Action similarly asserts that the manner in which an apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from the cited art. Although applicant respectfully disagrees, Claims 1-5, 17, 24, and 28 have been canceled to further the prosecution of the present application, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-5, 17, 24, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Claims 30-47 have been added to further point of the novelty of applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully submits that Phillips also does not teach the method recited in Claims 30-47.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 8 and 23

As indicated above, Claims 8 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards. Claims 8 and 23 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 8 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 6 and 21

As indicated above, Claims 6 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Phillips in view of Jarrett. Claims 6 and 21 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 6 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

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Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-22, and 24-29

As indicated above, Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-22, and 24-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hassel in view of Colman. Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-22, and 24-29 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-22, and 24-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 8, 16, and 23

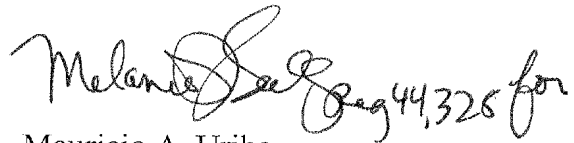
As indicated above, Claims 8, 16, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hassel as modified by Colman and further in view of Richardson. Claims 8, 16, and 23 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 8, 16, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims of the present application are allowable in view of the cited and applied references. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of the claims and allowance of the present application at an early date. If any questions remain, applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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